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Museums & Cultural Affairs

The City of El Paso Public Arts Committee (PAC) Tuesday, November 13, 2012, 3:30 PM City Hall 2nd Floor Conference Room

MINUTES

1. **Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order at 3:34 pm.
2. **Roll Call: Members Present:** Rida Asfahani, Melissa Barba-Espinosa, Ken Gorski, Floyd Johnson, Martina Lorey, Marina Monsisvais (Chair), Ray Parish.
Members Absent: Jane Thomas, Elizabeth Thurmond-Bengtson.
Others Present: Pat Dalbin, Alejandra Carrillo, Misty Castaneda.
3. **Public Comment:** None.
4. **Approval of Minutes.** Chair asked for approval of the Minutes for the last meeting on October 16, 2012. Ray Parish motioned to approve the minutes as presented. Melissa Barba-Espinosa seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.
5. **Discussion and Action on Including the Central Business District Phase IV Project in the Public Art Plan and the Artist Selection Process.** Pat Dalbin began by explaining to members that this phase would be south of Paisano and the City will look at parkways, sidewalks, ADA upgrades, roadways, drainage, street lighting, pedestrian lighting, bike amenities, traffic infrastructure, signing, traffic control and public art on Oregon, Mesa, Kansas and Campbell. The area is a high pedestrian traffic area and the amenities should complement it and be pedestrian friendly. She further explained that what we are proposing is once the PAC selects the pre-qualified artist pool, we curate a set of artists in the approved pool that show evidence of a background in streetscape or landscape so that the landscape consultant working on the project would get assigned the artist to do streetscape amenities and art wherever possible so that the streets speak of Segundo Barrio. Images were provided for review via a PowerPoint slideshow, and general discussion followed. Pat proposed that public art be included in this project and also that once the Public Art Committee selects the pre-qualified artist pool, an artist be selected through the pre-qualified artist pool. Marina Monsisvais expressed a desire to respect the neighborhood, the politics and the sense of ownership by putting out a call to local artists. Melissa Barba-Espinosa added that if there was an artist outside with more experience in streetscapes, that we consider holding forums to get input and to show designs so that there is community input. Pat added that there are three residents of the community on the committee to select the artist. Rida Asfahani expressed his desire to put out a call for local artists and Martina Lorey agreed. Chair requested a motion. Martina Lorey so moved; Rida Asfahani seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.
6. **Discussion and Action on the Final Design for the Five Points Mural Project.** Alejandra Carrillo began by showing members a PowerPoint slideshow of Cimi's final design proposal, to include all four panels. Meetings with the neighborhood associations took place a couple weeks ago and the designs were presented. Overall, the designs were well received, and he is still planning to tweak the colors and logos. General discussion followed. Members expressed concern over the Circle K logo in panel 4 and the power lines located outside of the police headquarters building. Pat Dalbin explained that power lines are behind all of Cimi's paintings as they are his 'signature', so they are fitting for this piece. Alejandra asked for additional concerns or comments on the content and members reiterated they were concerned with the Circle K and SCAT logos. Pat mentioned he has worked very closely with the associations involved and they were all heard and pleased with his design. Chair requested a motion. Rida Asfahani made a motion to approve as is; Martina Lorey seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.
7. **Discussion on the Selection Process for the Pre-Qualified Artist Pool for 2013-2014.** Pat Dalbin began by informing members she received 277 applications and would like to shortlist 125 artists. The

pool should be very diverse with all types of mediums, such as landscape experience, glass, metal, or mural work. There are only 22 local artists and Pat asked members to look at their work carefully so they can be worked with. The Engineering Department will be setting up meetings so they can prioritize the bond issuance, which is \$465M and 2% of that goes toward the arts and finding artists to work with architects. We will put out a call for our local visual artists to submit work to be purchased by the City of El Paso to hang in the 3 buildings located at 801 Texas, the Luther Building and the Times Building that the City just purchased. Additional future projects include the City Hall relocation, baseball stadium, street infrastructure plan, children's museum, cultural heritage center, swimming pools, soccer fields, trails and open space, zoo expansion, multi-purpose performing arts and entertainment facility, and library improvements. The selection process is open and will continue through November 23rd. General discussion followed.

8. Adjournment. Chair requested a motion to adjourn. Ray Parish moved to adjourn; Rida Asfahani seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 4:24 pm. Next meeting scheduled for December 11, 2012.

Approved for content by:
Patricia Dalbin, Public Art Program Coordinator

Respectfully submitted by:
Misty Castaneda, Administrative Assistant